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Agenda item 149
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Review of the United Nations Office to the African Union

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Diana Minyi **Lee** (Singapore)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 18th and 23rd meetings, on 7 and 23 December 2016. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records.[1]

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the United Nations Office to the African Union (A/71/551);

(b) Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/71/646).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/71/L.14

4. At its 23rd meeting, on 23 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Review of the United Nations Office to the African Union"

[1] A/C.5/71/SR.18 and A/C.5/71/SR.23.

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(A/C.5/71/L.14), submitted by the Chair of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Switzerland.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/71/L.14 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Review of the United Nations Office to the African Union

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/287 of 17 June 2016,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Recognizes* the increasing complexities of the issues in the region, emphasizes the importance of enhancing partnership, collaboration and cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, with a view to better addressing existing challenges, in accordance with the given mandates, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to ensure that future budget submissions place sufficient emphasis on the substantive part of mandate delivery;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take advantage of the co-location of the United Nations Office to the African Union and the Economic Commission for Africa, with a view to continuing to maximize efficiencies on common administrative support services, and to include relevant information in the context of future budget submissions;

5. *Notes* the comprehensive review of the Office carried out pursuant to its resolution 70/287, and in this regard approves the restructuring of the Office;

6. *Recalls* paragraphs 13 and 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides, under the support account for peacekeeping operations, with effect from 1 January 2017:

(a) To establish three new posts, comprising one Head of the Institutional and Operational Partnership Service (D-1), one Chief of Staff (D-1) and one National Professional Officer;

(b) To abolish five national General Service posts, comprising two Telecommunications Assistants, two General Service Assistants and one Medical Assistant/Nurse;

(c) To abolish two Field Service posts, comprising one Security Officer and one Telecommunications Technician;

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[1] A/71/551.
[2] A/71/646.

(d) To retain one national General Service post of Facilities Management Assistant;

(e) To redeploy posts as proposed by the Secretary-General;

(f) To reassign posts as proposed by the Secretary-General;

7. *Also recalls* paragraph 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and approves the reassignment of the D-2 post (from Chief of Staff to Deputy Head of Office) approved under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.